

# Delaware SOYBEAN BOARD

## 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

**DELAWARE FARMERS PLANT ABOUT 160,000 ACRES OF SOYBEANS ANNUALLY, PRODUCING OVER SEVEN MILLION BUSHELS OF BEANS AND GENERATING APPROXIMATELY \$60 MILLION IN VALUE TO THE STATE.**

The Delaware Soybean Board consists of nine farmer-directors and the Secretary of Agriculture. Funded through a one-half of one percent assessment on the net market value of soybeans at their first point of sale, the checkoff works with partners in the value chain to identify and capture opportunities that increase farmer profit potential.



### YIELD CONTEST

#### 2020 Sees Record Breaking Yields

**Phillip Sylvester of Kent County** had the state's top 2019 soybean yield with 94.24 bushels per acre of full season soybeans, breaking all previous contest records by nearly 10 bushels per acre. This 12% increase in yield was in a no-till field using Hubner H4228242x seed.

**David Smoker of Sussex County** won the statewide double crop competition with 79.38 bushels per acre, five bushels over previous record. Smoker planted Asgrow 46X6 following barley, which had also been cover cropped with barley.

County winners for full season soybeans included **Dale Blessing of Kent County** with 87.87 bushels per acre and **Cory Atkins of Sussex County** with 57.81 bushels per acre. County level winners for double crop beans included **Brian Warrington of Kent County** with 69.81 bushels per acre, **Mike Clay of New Castle** with 68.51 bushels per acre and **Tim Rogers of Sussex County** with 72.30 bushels per acre.

See full contest information and results summary at [desoybeans.org/yield-contest](https://desoybeans.org/yield-contest). The state winners in full season and double crop categories received \$1,000 and each county winner received \$250.

Photo (from left to right): Phillip Sylvester of Kent County; Rick Davis, Yield Contest Coordinator; and Cory Atkins, Delaware Soybean Board Chair.

### PRODUCTION RESEARCH

The Delaware Soybean Board funded six projects to address the strategic needs of Delaware soybean farmers:

#### A Survey of Delaware Soybean variety Tissue Nutrient Concentrations

*Jarrold Miller & Amy Shoher, University of Delaware – Plant & Soil Sciences*

#### Can Slug Egg Hatch Be Predicted?

*David Owens, University of Delaware – Plant and Soil Sciences*

#### Continued Survey and Characterization of Fungal Pathogens in Mid-Atlantic Soybean Production

*Alyssa Koehler and Jake Jones, University of Delaware – Plant and Soil Sciences*

#### Evaluating Earlier Planting Dates for Increased Soybean Yield

*Jarrold Miller, Alyssa Koehler & Cory Whaley, University of Delaware – Plant and Soil Sciences*

#### Potassium Sidedress on Soybeans

*Jarrold Miller & Amy Shoher, University of Delaware – Plant and Soil Sciences*

#### Two Approaches for Palmer Amaranth Control

*Mark VanGessel, University of Delaware – Plant and Soil Sciences*

Results of these projects are available online at [soybeanresearchinfo.com](https://soybeanresearchinfo.com)

## Priorities

### ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

As the largest market for local soybeans, DSB identifies it as a priority to promote animal agriculture. The checkoff program supported groups such as the Delaware Pork Producers Association to support 4-H Youth Livestock Shows; partnered with the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance on projects such as the "30 Harvests" video; invested in LEADelaware Class V's project to bring egg hatching into Sussex County classrooms, and participated with the Delmarva Land and Litter Collaborative to identify solutions that support both healthy and productive ecosystems and farming and poultry on Delmarva.

### CONSUMER EDUCATION

DSB connects with consumers to improve trust in food and farming through the Delaware State Fair, CommonGround events, and various media campaigns.

### EMERGING MARKETS

Sales for biofuels is increasing due to work of the National Biodiesel Board. The World Initiative for Soy in Human Health has increased exports to Africa, Asia and Latin America. Support for these activities has expanded soybean sales and positively impacts the price of soybeans.

### TECHNOLOGY

The DSB Pay Dirt blog offers insightful information for farmers with a local perspective. Learn about the research being conducted using checkoff dollars, in Delaware and nationwide, by visiting [soybeanresearchinfo.com](http://soybeanresearchinfo.com).

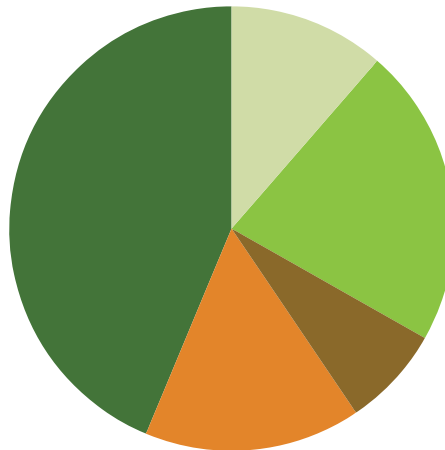
### REGULATIONS

What regulations apply to your farm? The checkoff offers a summary of federal, state and local regulations, available at [desoybeans.org](http://desoybeans.org) under the "News" tab.

## PROGRAMS

### Delaware Farmers Complete Leadership Academy

Two Delaware farmers attended the American Soybean Association's Soybean Leadership Academy in January 2020. Ted Babola and Jay West joined soybean growers from across the country in Orlando, FL for this training program to build leadership skills and a stronger voice for U.S. soy and agriculture. The two spent the week in sessions on ag economics, advocacy, feeding the future, navigating shared values, in addition to an interactive session on board roles and responsibilities and a presentation by the USB.



- PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION: \$33,182.97
- RESEARCH & PRODUCTION: \$63,632.02
- MARKET BUILDING & CONSUMER EDUCATION: \$21,400.06
- FARMER ENGAGEMENT: \$45,949.71
- UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD: \$127,476.03

*An audited report is available upon request.*

## FY20

### Checkoff Funds

During Fiscal Year 2020 (10/1/2019 — 9/30/2020), the Delaware Soybean Board collected \$274,455 in assessments.

One half of these funds were disbursed to the United Soybean Board. The balance is managed by the Delaware Soybean Board and invested in local research, communication, promotion and special projects. Examples of funded projects can be found under "Production Research" and "Priorities". Program implementation expenses cover collection, compliance, elevator audits and Board operations.

## FIND & FOLLOW US

[www.desoybeans.org](http://www.desoybeans.org)



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## BOARD MEMBERS

**CHAIR** Cory Atkins, Seaford  
**VICE CHAIR** Mike Clay, Middletown  
**TREASURER** Fred West, Frankford  
*New Castle County*  
Robbie Emerson, Middletown  
*Kent County*  
Kellie Blessing, Harrington  
Brett Coverdale, Harrington  
Chad Dempsey, Dover  
*Sussex County*  
Rick Dickerson, Laurel  
Tim Rogers, Frankford

**EX OFFICIO** Secretary of Agriculture  
Michael Scuse  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** Danielle Bauer  
**FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE**  
**COORDINATOR** Sandy Davis  
**DDA REPRESENTATIVE** Jo-Ann Walston  
**USB REPRESENTATIVE** Cory Atkins  
**USB ALTERNATE** Robbie Emerson